

Pierce R. Homer Secretary of Transportation Office of the Governor
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May 6, 2009

Dear Virginia Congressional Delegation:

On behalf of the Commonwealth of Virginia, I am writing to you in support the Commonwealth's funding requests for the new surface transportation authorization legislation.

The Commonwealth is seeking federal assistance for several priority projects that will significantly reduce traffic congestion and vehicle emissions, improve the efficiency and effectiveness of freight and passenger rail systems, help mitigate the transportation impacts of the Base Relocation and Closure (BRAC) Commission recommendations, and help to improve the economic conditions and competitiveness of the Commonwealth.

In particular, I would like to express my support for the Commonwealth's request for funding for the I-66 Bus Rapid Transit project. A brief description of the project and its benefits are below.

This project would implement Bus Rapid Transit in the I-66 Corridor from western Prince William County to Washington, DC.

This project would improve mobility and accessibility to key activity centers in the corridor and encourage economic development. Increasing public transportation service will add more capacity to the corridor and relieve pressure on the Metrorail Orange Line. In addition, it will also provide transit service in the western portion of the corridor to areas that are currently underserved or not served at all by transit.

Thank you for your consideration of these critical funding requests for the Commonwealth. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (804) 786-8032.

Sincerely,

Pierce R. Homer